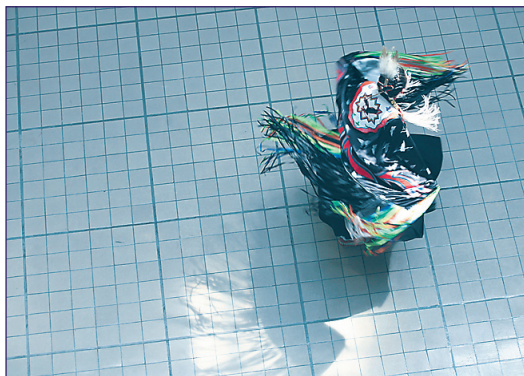


Weaving In Culture



photos by Chelsy Lueth | COLLEGIAN

Left: Douglas Scholfield performs a Native American dance during the Native American Heritage Day in the Student Union Monday. **Top:** Alicia Scholfield, twirls her colorful costume during a noon performance in the Union Courtyard. **Above:** Dora Daniel, resident of Manhattan, weaves a Cherokee basket.

Heritage event drums up interest, awareness

Lauren Gocken | COLLEGIAN

The sound of drums beating and tribal chanting filled the air on Monday afternoon in the Union. Men, women and children were dressed head to toe in feathers, bright colors and beads. These were the Big Soldier Creek Singers and Dancers performing traditional Native American dances as part of the Native American Heritage Month celebration.

The dancers headlined the afternoon from noon to 1 p.m. There were also tables on all sides of the courtyard with different Native American-related activities and art for students to peruse before and after the dancing.

"Everybody that thinks of Native Americans thinks of dancers," said Georgia Perez, adviser of the Native American Student Association. "That's one of the reasons we bring in some of the other people at the tables. They can see there's more to Native American culture than just dancing."

The dancers performed several different types of dance. One of the dances involved six colored

hoops that a woman formed into ladders, globes, flowers and other shapes. All the time she kept moving, picking up and setting down hoops.

"As the audience you give the dancers strength when you applaud," said Douglas Scholfield, a Big Soldier Creek dancer. "When you recognize the shapes, clap and she'll move on to the next shape."

In another dance, the dancers called the audience in to participate. The dancers, along with a couple dozen elementary school kids who were visiting the campus for the day, circled up and held hands while moving in a circular motion. This dance was appropriately called the "Friendship Dance."

"I really like how (the dancers) try to get everybody involved," said Cynthia Jones, senior in biology and Native American Student Association vice president. "The drumming really attracts a lot of attention and people, which is what this event really needs."

Jones said the loud drumming first got her involved in NASA last year. When she heard the drums

she went to see what was going on and then signed up for the club.

One of the tables in the courtyard featured Terra Coons, a basket-weaving artist from White City, Kan., who taught willing spectators how to weave their own Cherokee-style basket.

"I saw a little crowd drawing and I was drawn in," said Chelsea Patton, freshman in open option. "I wasn't planning on basket weaving. I got coaxed into it, but it's okay because it's fun."

Coons learned basket weaving after she graduated college and since then has taught basket-weaving workshops across the country.

"Most of us have weaving in our ancestry," Coons said. "I felt like I definitely found my niche."

Coons patiently taught students how to make baskets by giving them rattan strings to build the baskets, telling them the significance of the patterns and types of baskets and giving them hands-on help.

She started each with seven strands of rattan to represent the seven clans in the Cherokee tribe:

the wolf, wild potato, paint, blue, long hair, bird and deer. Then she helped the students work the rattan strands in the correct patterns and gave them a basic understanding of weaving. Coons told the students not to worry about perfection until they'd done about 50 baskets.

Other artists at the event were Reubin Ironhorse-Kent, a pottery sculptor from Powhattan, Kan., whose art had been featured in numerous different coffee table books and a college ceramics textbook; and Michael J. Perez, a Mexican-American artist who displayed his carvings, beadwork and leatherwork.

The heritage day celebration started in 2007 to expose students to Native American culture and customs.

K-State has approximately 150 students listed as Native Indian on their enrollment forms, according to Perez.

Some of the different tribes represented at K-State are the Hopi, Cheyenne, Blackfoot, Cherokee, Chocktaw, Cado, Potawatomi, Iowa, Sac and Fox and Crow.

POLICE REPORTS

Rapes reported during weekend

Pauline Kennedy | COLLEGIAN

There were two rapes reported over the weekend, said Capt. Kurt Moldrup of the Riley County Police Department.

The first rape was reported as an aggravated indecent, liberties with a child and took place in late March in the northeast part of Manhattan. The victim was a 14-year-old female and the 16-year-old male suspect was known to the victim. No arrests were made.

Another rape was reported to have happened in the northwest part of Manhattan on April 11 around 3 a.m. The victim was a 43-year-old woman. There are two suspects, both known to the victim.

VARNEY'S VICTIM OF THEFT

Varney's Book Store was the victim of a recent theft when two people allegedly tried to sell back stolen books, according to a report from the RCPD.

Muldrop said the police department arrested and charged Rene Jones, 22, and David Pamperin, 24, of 1116 Bluemont Ave. with theft. The incident happened sometime between April 8 and April 9, at Varney's located at 623 N. Manhattan St.

Muldrop said the suspects were allegedly caught stealing textbooks and trying to sell them back. The theft was valued at \$1,500, but \$1,000 was recovered.

Both individuals were released after being held on \$1,500 bond.

MAN TRANSPORTED TO MERCY

A Manhattan man left a weekend party with several injuries, according to a report from the RCPD.

The 24-year-old was apparently at a party at 923 Thurston St. when he stepped outside for a cigarette and was then jumped by several other males also at the party. The victim was transported to Mercy Regional Health Center with a broken lower jaw and a bilateral nasal fracture.

Stolen from the victim was a brown wallet with miscellaneous content and \$63 in cash. His cell phone was also stolen, making total losses \$223.

Invisible Children event brings in former Ugandan refugee

Tiffany Roney | COLLEGIAN

The Invisible Children event on Monday night was a college-student magnet, drawing so many students into the town hall of the K-State Leadership Studies Building that some had to be moved to a separate observation room.

"It's amazing that we were able to overflow the room, even bringing in pressure from the fire marshal because we're over capacity, that's a good problem to have," said Adam Palumbo, team leader for Invisible Children.

The event started off with the same movie as last year's screening, a movie entitled, "Go," which told the story of American students who traveled to Uganda to befriend their war-struck peers and help rebuild destroyed schools.

But something was different this year. After the film, a familiar-looking African stepped to the front - familiar because we had just watched him on screen, struggling through life in his displacement camp.

His name is Pepito Francis and he came all the way to Manhattan, Kan., to put a personal realness to

the faces in the film.

Francis shared his story of seeing rebel army members chop his father into pieces and abduct his sister. By the age of 9, Francis was living on his own.

But that night in the Leadership Studies Building, Francis did not look the same as when he was a boy crying in his hut. Instead of tears, he brought laughter; instead of anguish, hope.

Francis said he credits two things to his life change: his faith in God and the social action of Invisible Children.

Last year, that social action was directed toward stopping the war in northern Uganda. Now the rebel army is out of Uganda.

In response, Invisible Children has turned its attention to restoring the country's education to build up future leaders. This is done through the Legacy Scholarship Fund.

Jessica Everhart, sophomore in accounting, stood up during the question-and-answer time following Francis' speech to discern if she should support this fund. Everhart, who is an officer of Kappa Kappa Gamma, said she talked with

her sorority sisters afterward about ways to possibly sponsor a Ugandan student's education.

"We calculated it out and it's only \$2.80 a person for our chapter to cover this for a year, and we feel like that's nothing compared to, well, it's not even a coffee at Starbucks," she said. "It would be such an easy way to really affect somebody's life, so we might as well just do it."

Erin White said she was blown away by the eagerness of so many attendees to not only come and listen, but to even put forth their own money to help someone thousands of miles away. White is a sophomore in family studies and human services and vice president of The Coalition, the social justice group on campus that hosted the event.

"It just really proves that, at our core, we are all the same and we are all connected. We're all brothers and sisters, and this is what we do for brothers and sisters, we show up, and we learn about them. We learn about their suffering, and we do whatever we can to alleviate that suffering."

White said she wants to encour-



Matt Binter | COLLEGIAN

Papido Francis (left) and **Geoffrey Okot** (right) from Uganda, part of the "Invisible Children" event, laugh while watching a YouTube video in the lobby of the leadership studies building Monday night.

age students to pray, to send money and to make efforts to raise awareness and incite change.

"To work for each other, to serve each other, to constantly sacrifice for the good of other people, I ful-

ly believe that God uses all of that," she said. "He uses willing hearts, he uses people that are just completely broken and completely don't think they can do it, and he uses them in amazing ways."

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ACROSS

1 Cavern phenom-enon

5 Detail, for short

9 Hooter

12 Mentor

13 Calendar quota

14 — con-strictor

15 Stubborn

17 Tackle moguls

18 Tress

19 Old hat

21 React to a pun

24 Rickey flavoring

25 Red rock

26 Shun liquor

30 Office-holders

31 Aegean island

32 Geneti-cist's stuff (Abbr.)

33 Miscella-neous remnants

35 Abysses

36 Predeter-mines the outcome

37 Permis-sible

38 Quark-binding particle

40 Adoles-cent

42 Common Mkt.

43 Hurdles

48 Profit

49 Equine coloration

50 Relaxa-tion

51 Curvy character

52 Taj Mahal city

53 "Clue" weapon

DOWN

1 Id counter-part

2 Young lion

3 Day fractions (Abbr.)

4 Expendi-ture

5 Harmoni-zation

6 Pinnacle

7 Dine on

8 After-movie listings

9 Of childbirth

10 Stopped sleeping

11 Deposited

16 "And — the opposite shore will be"

20 I love (Lat.)

21 Crossword diagram, e.g.

22 Mysteri-ous character

23 Blocks

24 Some summer babies

26 Body art, for short

27 Ostrich's cousin

28 Opposed to

29 Final

31 Mrs., in Milan

34 Brazilian resort city

35 Lobster claw

37 Meadow

38 Kelly or Autry

39 Dregs

40 Despot

41 Sicilian volcano

44 Marshy area

45 "The Circus of Dr. —"

46 Kreskin's claim

47 Catch sight of

Solution time: 21 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 4-13

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

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38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47

48 49 50

51 52 53

CRYPTOQUIP

Z F D N Z J L Z Y C , D N H C B Z F
L H C B Y H B V T O H V Z F D N H
G W O V D G B J H Z J E V W K B K Y P
G B Y Y H X D N H E Y H B X Z F T Y B X P .
Yesterday's Cryptquip: IF REALLY DISHONEST FOLKS NEED GRIPPING TOOLS, I GUESS THEY SHOULD LOOK FOR LIARS' PLIERS.
Today's Cryptquip Clue: Z equals I

Logan's Run | By Erin Logan



THE PLANNER CAMPUS BULLETIN BOARD

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Faraj Mohammad Hijaz, titled, "Metabolism and Formation of two-Dodecylcyclobu-tanone in Irradiated Ground Beef." It will be held April 27 at 9:00 a.m. in Call Hall 206.

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Lutfa Akter, titled, "Modeling, Forecasting and Resource Allocation in Cognitive Radio Networks." It will be held April 29 at 2:30 p.m. in Rathbone 2064.

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Carey A Tresner, titled, "A Case Study to Identify and Describe Instructional Strategies Used in the Eleventh Grade Language Arts Classroom to Assist Disadvantaged Students in Preparing for the State Reading Assessment: A Guide for School Leaders and Eleventh Grade Language Arts Teachers." It will be held April 28 at 9 a.m. in Bluemont 368.

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Walamitien Herve Oyenani, titled, "An Algebraic Framework for Compositional Design of Autonomous and Adaptive Multiagent Systems." It will be held April 28, at 9:45 a.m. in Nichols 233.

The entry deadline for intramural disc golf is Thursday by 5 p.m. Sign up in the office at Peters Recreation Complex. The disc golf tournament will take place at Tuttle Creek State Park Saturday. For more information, see reservces.k-state.edu or call the office at 785-532-6980.

SafeZone invites the K-State community to attend the Nonviolent Communication workshop on Wednesday from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. in Union 212. For more information, check out k-state.edu/safezone.

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Juan Carlos Cruz Jimenez, titled, "Hydrolases on Fumed Silica: Conformational Stability

Studies to Enable Biocatalysis in Organic Solvents." It will be held tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. in Durland 1029.

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Terry Harrison, titled, "Educational Participation Issues Confronting Military Personnel Assigned to Austere Remote Locations." It will be held April 26 at 3 p.m. in Bluemont 368.

The Sixth Annual Enid Stover Poetry Recitation will be held April 24 from 2-4 p.m. at Manhattan City Park. In case of bad weather, the event will be held at the Manhattan Public Library auditorium. Chairs will be provided, but lawn chairs and blankets are also welcome. There will be light refreshments served, certificates and a gift drawing. For more information, contact Martha Seaton at 785-537-0936.

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Darin Duane Lenz, titled, "Strengthening the Faith of the Children of God: Pietism, Print and Prayer in the Making of a World Evangelical Hero, George Muller of Bristol (1805-1898)." It will be held Wednesday at 9 a.m. in Eisenhower 201.

Recreational Services is offering a new Jump Rope Fitness exercise class at Peters Recreation Complex on Thursdays from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. on basketball court No. 5. For more information, call the office at 785-532-6980.

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Yujun Wang, titled, "Universal Efmov Physics in Three- and Four-Body Collisions." It will be held April 21 at 2:30 p.m. in Cardwell 119.

The Graduate School announces the final doctoral dissertation of Valerie Lynn Zelenka, titled, "A Case Study of Literacy Instruction Delivered to Kindergarten Struggling Readers within the Response to Intervention Model in Three Classroom Settings." It will be held Monday at 8:30 a.m. in Bluemont 368.

in Hale Library Room 301.

SHAPE will host Battle of the Sexperts on April 21 at 7 p.m. in the Union Courtyard. Show us your expertise. Grab your friends and sign up as a team. 3-5 members per team. Enter your team online at k-state.edu/lafene/SHAPE/sex-pert.htm. Registration fee: \$5 per person (All preregistered participants receive a free T-shirt.) Registration deadline is tomorrow.

The City of Manhattan Parks & Recreation Department is looking for volunteer youth baseball and softball coaches for the upcoming summer season. The approximate season for the leagues will be May 17 - July 23. Interested individuals may contact MPRD at 587-2757 or e-mail Jeff Mayer at mayer@ci.manhattan.ks.us.

A Census 2010 Questionnaire As-sistance Center table, with an employee from the Census Bureau who can answer questions, will be at the Union outside of the food court, weekdays from 11 a.m. -2 p.m. Wednesday. Feel free to stop by.

Powercat Financial Counseling hosts Walk-in Financial today from 9 - 11 a.m. in the Office of Student Activities and Services, ground floor of the Union. No appointment necessary. Come in and ask peer financial counselors your quick money questions every Friday morning until April 30.

Instructional Design and Technol-ogy will offer "IDT Roundtable: Show ME, Don't Tell ME!" from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on April 22 in Union 212. Events are open to all faculty, staff and students.

The Planner is the Collegian's bulletin board service. To place an item in the Planner, stop by Kedzie 116 and fill out a form or e-mail news editor Bethaney Wallace at news@spub.ksu.edu by 11 a.m. two days before it is to run. Items might not appear because of space constraints, but will appear on the day of the activity. Confirmation will not be provided.

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CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call news editor Bethaney Wal-lace at 785-532-6556 or e-mail news@spub.ksu.edu.

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Mini Mountains

Insecurities can be molehills with new perspective



Jillian Aramowicz

Insecurities are like the modern-day mental version of the plague. They attack nearly everyone at some point, they are hard to get rid of and they can manifest themselves into huge problems that were originally tiny issues.

What do you feel most insecure about and why? I'm insecure about a few things in life. Although it doesn't bother me terribly, I don't really like wearing a swimsuit in public, mostly because I think it's like trying to put a bikini on a two by four, or a bean-pole, or something similar that fits the context of tall, skinny and inherently shapeless.

I also don't like reading my columns in the paper, but I'm not sure why. I also won't dance and I won't sing. I know there are many reasons people are uncomfortable about themselves but maybe with a little positive reinforcement, those nagging self-doubts can become less important.

It was about 7 p.m. our time when one of my best friends called me from overseas. I could tell right away he was not entirely sober.

"Hi. I'm um, uh, me and Drew are kind of drunk because ... because I'm depressed."

"I'm sorry. What are you upset about?"

"I don't know, I just ... I just don't fit in up here and I want to come home," he slurred.

I understood my friend was having a few issues. For one, he had recently realized joining the armed forces wasn't his cup of tea, partly on account of him being gay and partly because the structure and lifestyle didn't really suit him. Also, I could tell he hadn't just fallen off the wagon, but had more or less taken a flying leap to compensate for his unhappiness.

"Honestly, kid, I think you should go out and meet some people and maybe try to get out of the dorm for

awhile," I suggested.

"I want to but I just can't. I'm just so insecure about everything, myself included," he moaned.

This made me realize all of a sudden, that maybe it is not the people around us or the influences we see in the media that are entirely to blame for our insecurities; perhaps a great chunk of our personal conflicts come from how we think about ourselves. Learning to take control of your inner demons can be a tough task, but it is certainly not an impossible one.

How would it feel to be in a position of extreme vulnerability? We spend so much time worrying about bits and pieces we take for granted that sometimes I think it is easy to lose track of the simple things.

One night at work, a couple and another man came in to eat together. The man was walking very slowly and the lady was holding onto his arm. I wondered if he had suffered a recent injury or had undergone surgery.

When I brought them their menus, the man looked up and said, "Oh, I don't need a menu. I'm blind."

Then he introduced himself and his friends and we ended up having a great conversation. He was one of the happiest, friendliest people I had ever met. At the end of the evening, I felt comfortable enough to ask him if it was hard emotionally not being able to see anything. He just chuckled and said, "Nope."

That's all I needed to hear to realize that I, like many people, take more things for granted than I should.

Struggling with insecurities is something most of us will probably deal with throughout our adult lives. It is hard to be happy and confident 100 percent of the time.

However, I do hope if any of our readers are grappling with something that is becoming a mental mountain rather than just a molehill, you will stop and realize that there are great parts of your life that will be waiting for you when you are done pushing them away to live with the skeletons in your closet.

Jillian Aramowicz is a sophomore in journalism and mass communications. Send comments to opinion@pub.ksu.edu.



Illustration by Jillian Aramowicz

Airline baggage fees fly higher and higher for travelers



Leslie Campbell

Airports are stressful. The least of your worries is getting there two hours ahead of time, then checking in, weighing your bags, going through security and finally, because you arrived so early, sitting at your gate for an hour and a half, waiting patiently to be herded onto a plane. Spirit Airlines has decided to make the whole process even worse for passengers by charging a fee for

carry-on baggage. Passengers are still allowed a purse or briefcase at their feet, and items such as cameras, pet containers and diaper bags are still free of charge, but you can no longer go on a weekend trip with a carry-on to save money.

Paying \$20 per bag per flight is enough to persuade many passengers to pack a carry-on suitcase. But now on Spirit Airlines we will be charged for that too. Experts think the new fee will outrage consumers and make traveling less desirable than it already is, but they also point out that perhaps other major airlines will not implement carry-on fees due to backlash.

Spirit Airlines flies to destinations in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean, and is known for their cheap flight prices. With their brand new carry-on luggage charge, the cheap fares are not so cheap

anymore. In an April 6 article on CNN.com, Ken McKenzie, the chief operating officer said, "In addition to lowering fares even further, this will reduce the number of carry-on bags, which will improve in flight safety and efficiency by speeding up the boarding and deplaning process."

While there is logic to this policy, I think consumers are more concerned about saving money versus a few minutes extra deplaning. Plus fewer bags or not, there will always be delays and the inevitable people who just take their time deplaning. We expect traveling to take time and patience, but we don't expect new fees and charges every time we fly.

Spirit Airlines is the only airline company with the carry-on charge so far, and hopefully other airlines won't follow suit. Most airlines began charging fees for reg-

ular baggage in 2008 and now the only main airline carrier without baggage fees is Southwest, who prides itself on cheap fares and no extra frills. Hopefully this is not an indication of the future of carry-on fees spreading to all major airlines.

The best way to combat airline prices is to be a smart shopper. Book your ticket in advance, look at all your options and adding baggage fees to your final total. Traveling is definitely not cheap, but being knowledgeable about different airline policies and charges can save a few dollars. Now that one airline has adopted the carry-on bag charge, it's just another factor to look at when choosing which airline to fly.

Leslie Campbell is a junior in apparel and textiles and journalism and mass communications. Send comments to opinion@pub.ksu.edu.

Schools should teach Rand, embrace different views



Joshua Madden

This weekend I had the wonderful opportunity to go to New York City and see John Stossel speak at The King's College. After he finished speaking and answering questions, I went up to get my picture taken with him and we discussed Ayn Rand, the libertarian thinker and author of "Atlas Shrugged" and "The Fountainhead."

As I walked back to where I was staying, I realized, despite the profound impact Rand's work has had on my life and the lives of many others; many people probably haven't read any of her books.

I truly believe no thinker (with the possible exception of the economist John Maynard Keynes) has played more of a role in our cur-

rent economic situation than Rand. Some think her ideas are to blame for the mess we're in. Others say her ideas are what will lead us out of it. I lean toward the latter. It's hard to read "Atlas Shrugged" and not see parallels to what's going on right now, despite having been written over 50 years ago.

Regardless of your opinion of her ideas, you should at least be familiar with them. All of the Rand I've read – a page count that easily totals in the thousands – was done outside of school. I can't tell you how many authors I read in school that were much less relevant to my life. Yeah, Ralph Waldo Emerson, I'm looking at you. This begs the question: Why isn't Ayn Rand taught more frequently in schools?

I understand "Atlas Shrugged" is a bit intimidating because of its sheer size and "The Fountainhead" might be considered too risqué for some younger readers, but I would encourage high schools around the country to add "Anthem" to their curriculum, much like a few high schools in my area did successfully.

"Anthem" is not long and serves

as a terrific introduction to Rand's ideas and philosophy she called Objectivism. Some people may say it is not the role of the school system to indoctrinate kids with a certain mind-set and to them I would simply say that I agree wholeheartedly. Indoctrination is much different from introducing students to a wide variety of ideas and letting them choose on their own. Adding one of the most influential thinkers of the 20th century into the mix seems like an obvious step and would hardly be "indoctrination." Let's be honest, not every kid assigned the book is going to read it, so the charge seems a little extreme.

One of my friends – who would disagree with just about everything Rand believed in – and I have had multiple discussions about "Atlas Shrugged" and I feel we have both benefited from reading it, even though the two of us have come to radically different conclusions. When I read the works of an author I disagree with it tends to strengthen, not weaken, my beliefs. I mentioned earlier that I saw Mr. Stossel speak at The King's Col-

lege. I also saw Christopher Hitchens and Douglas Wilson (authors of "Is Christianity Good for the World? – A Debate") debate on, well, whether Christianity is good for the world. The King's College is a private Christian school; yet they allowed notable atheist Christopher Hitchens to speak there. Did anyone renounce their faith because of Hitchens? It's unlikely. Did anyone walk away with new things to think about and new questions to try and answer? Absolutely – I did. I have a feeling I wasn't the only one.

Exposing people to differing viewpoints can be a good thing. It's silly the works of Ayn Rand go undiscussed in schools, though their ideas are shaping the world. If students are given the chance to go straight to her words, they will also be given the chance to think about them and reach their own conclusion. Given her impact, that seems reasonable enough.

Joshua Madden is a junior in history, political science and journalism and mass communications. Send comments to opinion@pub.ksu.edu.

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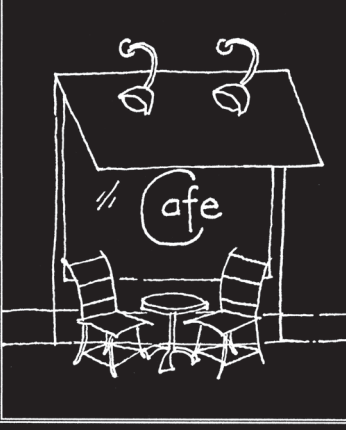
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Just for Grins



Photos by Lisle Alderton | COLLEGIAN
Blair Kocher, sophomore in business management, said he puts passion into performing because of some advice his brother, Grant gave him: “I’m going to support you in whatever you do, but you have to pick one and put everything into it.” Kocher’s act draws on many family experiences.

Improv comedian says, ‘I’m living the dream life’

Tim Schrag | COLLEGIAN

The sound of laughter holds many connotations in today’s society; for Blair Kocher, sophomore in business management, it represents more than just amusement.

“Knowing that you made someone’s day better for even just a little bit, whether it’s in front of 11,000 people or just one person, if you can say one thing that will make them laugh it was worth it,” he said.

Kocher is a member of the “On the Spot” Improv club, a recently formed comedy club at K-State. In his spare time, he also performs solo as a standup comedian. After only two performances, he had the opportunity to open for comedian Joel McHale last weekend at his performance in McCain auditorium.

However, Kocher said his knack for drawing smirks and storytelling came at an early age.

“We have a video of me when I was probably six years old and I was ready to perform then trying to crack jokes to say something funny that would make people laugh on camera,” he said.

He did not come to K-State initially to be a comedian, coming from a

musical background that involved singing in choirs since the 5th grade and vocal lessons since 8th grade. He joined the K-State Singers his freshman year at K-State.

“That’s where I got a lot of opportunities to be in front of people and on stage,” he said. “I’ve always been a storyteller but singing got me over my stage fright.”

Kocher described the K-State Singers as the singing ambassadors for K-State. With a recently revamped sound the show choir travels to various venues to perform and promote the K-State brand.

Kocher said he got his start in the comedic world after his girlfriend, Samantha Rigsby, junior in elementary education, thought joining on the spot would be a fun thing for the two to do as a couple. Eventually, Rigsby would decide improv was not exactly her cup of tea, but Kocher stuck with the group, calling it a release.

Chris Littrell, junior in political science and president of “On the Spot,” said Kocher has really come into his own as a performer since joining the club.

“He said he wasn’t sure if he was funny enough to be doing Improv,” Littrell said. “When the

rehearsal finished I went up to him and gave it to him straight, told him he was hilarious and that I would be terribly disappointed if he didn’t join the troupe.”

Littrell said Kocher commands an amazing stage presence and great physical comedian.

“He makes the other actors feel really comfortable in scenes,” Littrell said.

“I’ve always been a storyteller but singing got me over my stage fright.”

Blair Kocher
STUDENT PERFORMER

The troupe performs bi-weekly as part of Mr. Tom’s Comedy Cavalcade in Aggieville. Kocher said performing with the troupe really helped him delve for the courage to start a solo comedic career.

Kocher said most of his stand-up act comes from personal and family experiences, which he thinks is unique because it’s relatable.

“I feel like the best

group to poke fun of is yourself,” he said.

“There’s a lot of people out there who can make jokes, but everyone’s got a family, everyone’s got a sibling that makes them mad or a dad that has crazy sayings.”

His father, Doug, passed away during his freshman year of high school. Kocher said he tells jokes that poke fun at how his dad lived as a way to carry on his spirit.

“A lot of times I feel like I’m laughing the hardest when is when my mom, my brother and I get together and tell stories about my dad,” he said. “And we laugh because it’s so true and we can hear him still.”

Kocher said his father’s passing really nudged him to put himself in the spotlight as performer in part because of the support of his community.

“After feeling that compassion from other people it really made me want to be a more outgoing person,” he said.

Kocher said he aspires to perform professionally either as a singer or comedian rather than work a “9 to 5 job in a cubical,” but he also understands that his school-work comes first. He often will have to plan ahead and finish assignments earlier than he



usually would in order to perform.

Ben Hopper, Adviser to On the Spot Improv Troupe, said he thinks Kocher has a gift for story telling. Hopper was an instructor for a course Kocher took last fall.

“He was always fun to have in class,” he said. “He just has a knack for

telling jokes.”

Though his future is unknown, Kocher draws joy from all of the support from family, friends and the laughter of each audience he performs in front of.

“I feel like I’m living the dream life because of all the fun I’m having,” he said.

Trying strength training will help health, put spring in step



Melissa Wood

It’s that time of year again, folks. Spring has officially sprung and it seems as though everyone is more active thanks to the warmer temperatures. Be it the weather or the realization that summer and swimsuits are just a few weeks away, now is a great time to start a strength training program. Why now? Not only will building some muscle give you a tighter and leaner look in your summer wardrobe, building strength also has health benefits that will

make your summer more enjoyable.

Strength training improves the strength of your bones, muscles and connective tissue, decreasing your risk of injury. The addition of muscle mass also raises your metabolism because it burns more calories at rest than fat does. Strength training’s most convenient benefit is arguably the increased quality of life experienced as typically tiring tasks like moving from one living situation to another or mowing the lawn become much easier.

There are many questions that someone new to strength training may ask, so here are a few dos and don’ts to help you get started. The biggest problem many people new to strength training have is not knowing where to start. Do have a plan before you head to the gym. If you stroll into the weight room

with no idea of what you want to accomplish, what will you really get done? The American Council on Exercise (Acefitness.org) recommends starting with one set of eight to 12 correctly performed repetitions for every major muscle group to become familiar with proper form and fatigue. ACE also has an exercise directory that can be very helpful for getting ideas of how to work each muscle group you need to. Write down what exercises you want to do, as well as how many sets and repetitions, and stick with it.

On that note, don’t do the same thing every time you lift. Your muscles are just like you; they want to accomplish tasks using as little effort as possible. When we do the same exercises in the same order at the same intensity, they learn what to expect and adapt to the challenge. You’ll reach a plateau and stop

making gains in no time. Even changes as simple as doing the exercises in a different order or adding a high-intensity exercise in between your usual lifts (such as a sprint or running a flight of stairs) will do the trick. Changing things up will be less boring for you as well.

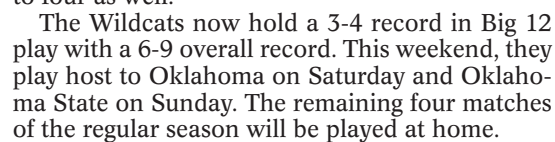
Unquestionably, most people give up on training programs because they did not expect to wake up the next morning and have a hard time moving through their daily activities. Do expect to be sore. It sounds dreadful, but it means you are challenging your body enough and getting stronger. The phrase “no pain, no gain” has not stuck around for no reason. As you get stronger this side effect will not be as intense. In the meantime, getting plenty of water and stretching after a tough workout will help.

The biggest piece of advice to

remember is to persevere. Do not get discouraged as measurable strength gains take time to acquire. Hitting the gym every day for three weeks is not going to give you the perfect body. While you may see some initial gains in that period of time, most goals take much longer. Six to eight weeks is usually a good timeframe for re-testing original goals. Do track your progress somehow. Writing things down gives you something to look back on and evaluate what you still need work on as well as added motivation.

Overall, the benefits of strength training outweigh the initial costs by far. Push yourself and keep your workout plan organized and you’ll be stronger before you know it. Happy lifting!

Melissa Wood is a senior in kinesiology. Send comments to edge@pub.ksu.edu.



Art displays creativity, encourages children to tell their story

Austin Enns | COLLEGIAN

Eight tennis shoes and a flip-flop rest on three black display podiums. Shoes are wildly painted with a smattering of colors and glue holds bars, chains, feathers, fake gems and even googly eyes to the outside of the shoes. Each podium has three tiers, each containing a shoe. Behind each shoe is a story of abuse, pain or neglect. This moving art exhibit is not in any gallery, but in the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist church on Poyntz as part of Youthville's Walk a Mile art exhibit.

Youthville is a nonprofit child welfare agency. Lynn Deckinger, director of communications at Youthville, said Youthville's psychiatric residential facility in Newton, Kan. conducts the Walk a Mile program for kids between 8 and 17 years who are brought into the center for 24-hour care for making threats against others or themselves.

The stories behind the shoes were heartbreaking and even

Little Princess



Tommy Theis | COLLEGIAN

A small girl wearing typical Mexican dress leaps down the steps to hug her mother sitting in the audience during the International Fashion Show on Sunday in Forum Hall.

2010

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Bulletin Board

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Housing/Real Estate

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120 Rent-Houses

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300 Employment/Careers

310 Help Wanted

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9	8	2						
2	6	4			7	5		
				9	3	8		
		8						
4			7				6	
					5			
	1	4	9					
	3	6			1	7	4	
					4	6	3	

Rules: Fill in the grid so that each row, column, and 3x3 block contains 1-9 exactly once.

3	1	5	8	7	9	6	2	4
9	7	4	2	3	6	5	8	1
8	6	2	5	1	4	9	7	3
2	8	9	3	4	1	7	6	5
1	3	6	7	2	5	8	4	9
4	5	7	6	9	8	1	3	2
7	9	1	4	8	2	3	5	6
5	2	8	1	6	3	4	9	7
6	4	3	9	5	7	2	1	8

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To Place An Ad

Go to Kedzie 103 (across from the K-State Student Union.) Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Advertising Design
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Application deadline 4 p.m. Friday, April 16.

Student uses emoticons, webspeak, to illustrate message



Emoticon faces hang from clear wire as part of a piece called the "Emoticon Mobile" in the William T. Kemper art gallery in the K-State Student Union. It's part of the "EMOTIC-ONS AND WEBSPEAK" art exhibition by Brian Bookwalter.

Hannah Loftus | COLLEGIAN

While it isn't exactly news that texting and driving is bad, a recent study released from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute found people who send text messages while driving are 23 times more likely to be in a crash, or what they call a near-crash event, than non-distracted drivers.

Many towns, including Manhattan, have decided to start cracking down on people who text while driving. One local artist, Brian Bookwalter, a graduate student in fine arts, decided to take the message to a new medium - graphic design.

"The best way to describe the show would be to say that the projects attempt to use the combination of emoticons and webspeak with design principles to solve the problem," said Bookwalter. "It seemed like an interesting argument to make with graphic design. I wanted to do something different."

The work, "EMOTIC-ONS AND WEBSPEAK," in the Kemper Art Gallery in the K-State Student Union is a culmination of roughly five semesters of work, said Bookwalter, originally from Ankeny, Iowa.

The main inspiration for Bookwalter's thesis was to show his interest in how quickly the lan-

guage of webspeak and emoticons was accepted into society and how people use them in their everyday lives. This includes texting and driving. However, there are other ideas incorporated into the show.

The art display consists of several two-dimensional works, most of them inkjet on paper. However, some works incorporate wood, vinyl, basswood and latex paint.

"The art display definitely made an interesting point," said Ginny Davison, a sophomore in accounting. "I will admit I do text and drive, even though I am trying to quit, I really should."

She said the display is alerting people to what they already know is wrong.

The show in Kemper is a solo thesis exhibition; all the pieces featured are the work of Bookwalter, although he says he received beneficial advice from his peers and from his thesis committee.

Bookwalter is currently seeking out other galleries in the region who will showcase the display.

The display will end Friday, April 16, at 4:30 p.m. Bookwalter will also be hosting a closing reception on Friday evening at 5 p.m. in the Kemper gallery in the Student Union.

K-Staters step into cultural experience with dance night

Tiara Williams | COLLEGIAN

Students learned basic moves from international dances including India, Japan, and China last night during International Dance Lessons, which took place in the K-State Student Union West Ballroom as part of international week.

Pavani Ayyagari, masters in computer and informational sciences and hostess of the event, spoke during the lessons and introduced each new dance instructor.

Her other team members for the night were Sreekanth Reddy, graduate in computer and information sciences, who played the music for each lesson, and Jinzi Chen, junior in business management, head of the international dance lessons committee.

"We expected more people, but it was probably our timing that brought this many people," said Ayyagari. "Since it started at 5:30 and most people do not turn in until later. We couldn't really change the time though."

The dances ranged widely: Belly dance (with some Lebanese dances added), Indian dance, Chinese dance, Salsa and Japanese dance.

"Tonight we have five kinds of different dance," said Chen. "I think it is a great opportunity to promote culture diversity and culture understanding."

Jam-packed with two and a half hours of learn-

ing, no one quit early. All stayed to master all the skills that were taught.

BELLY DANCE

Christina Khalil, graduate in food service and hospitality management and dietary administration, taught Belly dancing and a few Lebanese dances called Dabkeh. In this dance the group holds hands in a circle with stomps, steps and hops repeated continuously.

"This is just music that you can go out and party to and I am not a professional belly dancer or teacher or anything," said Khalil.

With this in mind, she led the girls in their part. She then showed the men their role.

For the women, she said to just move your hips to the music and lift one hand up in the air as you twist.

Someone in the crowd shouted, "Forward figure eight or back figure eight?" and everyone giggled.

Khalil suggested sticking out one leg and moving a hip forward up and down or backward up and down.

She said, "just improvise and it will go well."

For the men, Khalil told them to get on one knee and clap as the girl performs in front of them.

As the men went along with what is required, the group laughed.

Most girls were confident, ready to show off. Most guys were timid, while a few were more outgoing with moving their hips on the girl section.



Monday night's International Dance lessons were broken up into five dances from different cultures. Sohini Roy Chowdhury, Graduate Masters in Electrical Engineering, teaches fellow students an Indian dance Monday.

INDIAN DANCE

Kathak is one of the oldest forms of classical dance. Sohini Roy Chowdhury, masters in electrical engineering, taught this dance, which is "all about your posture and your stamina."

Kathak included many steps and turns. It took much focus and instruction to master the moves. It also included hands in prayer formation and pretending to hold items like pots on top of one's head for the women, and playing the flute for the men, while dancing.

Ahmed Alarbash, sophomore in chemical engineering, said the Indian Dance was his favorite.

"I am not a good dancer, but I think it is cool," he said. "I just want to enjoy other cultures."

er, but I think it is cool," he said. "I just want to enjoy other cultures."

CHINESE DANCE

Yi Yang, sophomore in business administration, taught a Chinese dance titled "Thousands in the Hands of Beauty."

This was one of the most entertaining dance of the night, shown by the loudness of the laughter by participants.

He knew each movement well and was extremely flexible, though the crowd proved themselves to be otherwise.

Included in the dance was running into position and posing in line, along with precise arm movements.

SALSA

Two members from K-State Swing and Salsa joined the International Dance Lessons to teach salsa.

Lindsay Ratliff, recent graduate of K-State in family studies and human services and vice president of the Swing and Salsa club, and Ryan Felber, senior in interdisciplinary humanities and a founder of Swing and Salsa club, showed each gender's part in this specific dance.

With boys in a line on one side of the room and girls on the other, Ratliff said, "Girls, step back with your right foot."

Felber said, "Lindsay, tell everyone why girls start

with their right foot."

Lindsay responded with "because girls are always right."

Chuckling, Felber agreed, saying, "yes, girls are always right, but boys always lead."

Ratliff and Felber taught the basic Salsa step and some turns.

JAPANESE DANCE

Ching Her, sophomore in open option, taught the Japanese dance, despite being from China.

When asked why, he said, "because I am not racist," then laughed.

He said his real answer was because he just wanted to learn something new.

Dancing to Nengara Nenju, Her said this dance needs audience participation.

It is a modern dance, not traditional like 'back in the day' Nengara Nenju originated from World War II, when Japan was in a depression.

"Japanese people danced the Yosakoi - come at night - to feel better," said Her.

This dance is light-hearted and energetic. It includes much jumping, fist pumping in a jumping jack motion, jazz hands and the monkey dance.

Her wanted it to be made known that he did not name the latter dance.

For more information about upcoming events for international week, visit the International Coordinating Council Web site at k-state.edu/icc.

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